

*English Section*



*Editor : Diljit Singh 'Bedi'*

## **DAYS COMMEMORATING HISTORICAL EVENTS** **(16<sup>th</sup> April to 15<sup>th</sup> May)**

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| 17 April | (a) Sikhs occupied Lahore bringing end to the Afghan rule. (17-4-1765)   |             |
|          | (b) Shaheedi Jatha left Akal Takhat Sahib for Jaito.   | (17-4-1925) |
| 21 April | Birth of eminent Sikh Scholar Giani Dit Singh Ji.  | (21-4-1853) |
| 24 April | (a) Akali Dal decided to launch a peaceful agitation for Punjabi Suba.   | (24-4-1955) |
|          | (b) Akali Dal began agitation to stop Satluj-Yamuna Link Canal.  | (24-4-1982) |
| 25 April | Treaty of Amritsar signed between East India Company (the British) and Maharaja Ranjit Singh.  | (25-4-1809) |
| 26 April | Battle of Kartarpur (Jalandhar) in which warriors of Guru Hargobind Sahib, Bhai Fatta, Bhai Amia, Bhai Kishna, Bhai Nathia, Bhai Madho etc. were martyred. | (26-4-1635) |
| 27 April | Special Jatha of 101 Sikhs left for Jaito.   | (27-4-1925) |
| 29 April | (a) Battle of Phagwara in which some warriors of Guru Hargobind Sahib, Bhai Desa, Bhai Jaggu, Bhai Suhela etc. were martyred.                              | (29-4-1635) |
|          | (b) Akali Dal announced launching of agitation for return of Chandigarh to Punjab.   | (29-4-1968) |
| 30 April | (a) Birth of Bibi Bhani. (daughter of Guru Amar Dass Sahib)  | (30-4-1533) |
|          | (b) General Hari Singh Nalwa martyred at Jamraud.  | (30-4-1837) |
| 3 May    | Birth of Sirdar Jassa Singh Ahluwalia.   | (3-5-1718)  |
| 5 May    | Indian regime disbanded the Sikh States and formed a province within India under the name "Patiala and East Punjab State Union (PEPSU).                    | (5-5-1948)  |

6 May	Police firing at Gurdwara Sis Ganj Sahib, Delhi.	(6-5-1930)
9 May	Shaheedi Jatha left Akal Takhat Sahib for Jaito.	(9-5-1924)
10 May	(a) Master Tara Singh led a jatha to Peshawar to protest against killing of Sikhs and the Pathans.	(10-5-1930)
	(b) Akali Dal started agitation against imposition of ban on the slogan "Punjabi Suba Zindabad".	(10-5-1955)
11 May	(a) Ram Rai visited Guru Gobind Singh at Paonta Sahib and made an apology for his deeds.	(11-5-1685)
	(b) Akali Dal passed "Sikhs are a nation" resolution.	(11-5-1981)
14 May	The Sikhs captured Sirhind under the command of Baba Banda Singh Bahadur.	(14-5-1710)
15 May	Rani Jind Kaur taken to Benaras. Her pension reduced from Rs. 48,000 to Rs. 12,000.	(15-5-1848)

## *Appeal*

*The devotees are requested to bring the 'PAVAN BIRS' of Sri Guru Granth Sahib (Old ones for SANSKAR) to Sri Guru Granth Sahib Bhawan, Gurdwara Ramsar Sahib complex near Gurdwara Shaheed Ganj Baba Deep Singh Ji 'Shaheed' only instead of Sri Akal Takhat Sahib. This has been decided to facilitate the 'SANGAT' for the Holy Sri Guru Granth Sahib (Newly published) are available at the same venue.*

*-Guru Panth Da Das-*

*Secretary,  
Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee,  
Amritsar.*

In continuation with the last edition:

## **SRI GURU TEGH BAHADUR SAHIB JI (1621-1675)**

*-S. Surjit Singh 'Gandhi'*

**We are taking pleasure while publishing these contents from the book  
'History of the Sikh Gurus' by S. Surjit Singh Gandhi former Head of Sikh  
History Research Board (SGPC).**

### **Arrest of the Guru Ji**

However, four days before the great occasion came, Alam Khan Rohilla suddenly appeared with imperial order from Delhi and arrested him along with Bhai Sati Das, Bhai Mati Das, Bhai Gawal Das.<sup>1</sup>

According to one of the Buranjis<sup>2</sup>, the orthodox Ulemas and Brahmins were much upset at the deep impact of the teachings and they complained to the Emperor that the whole atmosphere was being vitiated by the Guru Ji. The Emperor, after examining the complaint, issued orders that the Guru Ji should appear before him.

The Guru Ji, however, did not pay heed to this and continued his work as usual. Thereupon the Emperor commissioned Alam Khan to effect the arrest of the Guru Ji which he did on the day as mentioned in the preceding paragraph. Forster Malcolm, Cunningham and Latif state that discomfited in his efforts to attain Gaddi for himself, Dhirmal began to conspire with Ram Rai to devise some ways to bring about the ruin of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji and as a result of that, the Guru Ji was summoned to Delhi-the view which is not supported by any sound evidence.

### **Intercession of Ram Singh and the Guru Ji was set free**

On being produced before Alamgir Aurangzeb at Delhi, the Guru Ji was strictly examined and then handed over to Raja Ram Singh of Amber for custody and surveillance. Aurangzeb wanted to execute the Guru Ji but through the successful intercession of Ram Singh, who took full responsibility of the Guru Sahib good conduct, the Guru Ji escaped punishment. According to Bhat Vahi Jado Bansian, Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji remained in custody of Raja Ram Singh for a period of about one month. On December 13, 1665 (Poh 1, 1722 Bk.), the Guru Ji was released and allowed to go anywhere. The Guru Ji thereupon resumed his travel to different places in the east. The news of the Guru Sahib release angered Aurangzeb who disapproved of this act of Raja Ram Singh which he considered as the violation of the terms of the custody.

### **Mathura Agra**

### **Allahabad Mirzapur and Banaras**

### **Sasaram, Patna**

The next important halt was Mathura, wherefrom he betook to Agra where there

was already a very important Sikh centre built in memory of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji visit to the place. Here he stayed in the house of one old pious lady, Mai Jassi in Mai Than Mohalla of the city where now a Gurdwara exists in memory of the Guru Sahib visit. From there, the Guru Ji and his entourage moved on to Etawah, Kanpur, Fatehpur and reached Allahabad early in March 1666 A.D. It was Allahabad that Mata Gujri got conceived. Next important halts were Mirzapur and Benaras, At Benaras the Guru Ji stayed for many days. According to Dr. Fauja Singh "Like the other places, he had visited Benaras before more than once and felt quite at home among his devotees, chief among whom was Bhai Jawahri Mal." As the local tradition goes, the white horse, Sri Dhar, gifted to him by Saif Khan of Saifabad, fell ill and subsequently met his death at this place. Then the Guru Ji moved to Sasaram where he met important Sikh missionary Phagu Shah who lodged the Guru Ji in a beautiful new house which has since become a holy shrine<sup>3</sup> Having visited Bodh Gaya, Rai Garh, the Guru Ji reached Patna towards the end of May 1666 A.D.

The heads of the Patna diocese, Ram Rai and Bhai Durbari made an excellent arrangement for the stay of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji and his family. A devout lady known as Mata Paidi looked after holy mother Nanaki, and Mata Gujri who was expecting a child. The Guru Ji spent the early months of the rainy-season (Chamasa) at Patna. During this period, he reorganised the missionary work in Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and other neighbouring areas by placing all sangats of these areas under the unified command of Bhai Dayal Das who by his sincerity in the cause had risen very high in the estimation of the Guru Ji. Sometime around the Dussehra festival, a few prominent Sikhs of Dacca waited upon the Guru Ji and entreated him to visit and bless their area as well.

The Guru Ji agreed to go with them at once entrusting his family to the care of Patna Sangat.

The Guru Ji proceeded to Dacca via Monghyr, Colgong, Sahibganj, and Kant Nagar. The last named place was subsequently wiped out by the floods and the inhabitants moved to a new site towards the north, now known as Lachmipur. Many people in this area still profess Sikh faith<sup>4</sup>, The prominent disciples who accompanied him were Bhai Mati Das, Bhai Sati Das and Baba Gurditta son of Bhai Budha. From Kant Nagar, the Guru Ji reached Malda, a great Sufi centre. Here the Guru Ji is believed to have stayed for more than a month during which he had exchange of ideas on many religious problems. The Muslim saints were much impressed by the piety and spiritual splendour of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji. From Malda, the Guru Ji reached Dacca passing through among other such places as Godagari, Gopalpur and Pabna.

### **Notes and References**

1. Bhat Vahi Jadobansian Khata Barrian as quoted by Dr. Fauja Singh in his book *Guru Tegh Bahadur - Martyr and Teacher*.
2. S.K. Bhuyan : *Badshah Buranji*, Sakhi 116.
3. This shrine is known by the name of Chacha Phagu's Sangat.
4. The memory of the Guru's visit is still fresh in the minds of the people, and pertaining to that memory, legends are still current among them.

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